Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 EB-08 AGRE-00 COME-00 L-03

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P 120155Z JUN 78 FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8691 INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE TOKYO 10561

LONDON FOR SUGAR DEL (O'DONNELL)

E.O. 11652: NA TAGS: ETRD, JA, US

SUBJECT: JAPANESE RATIFICATION OF ISA

REF: (A) STATE 147741, (B) STATE 138874

1. MOFA CONTACT (OKAMOTO, FIRST INTERNATIONAL ORG. DIV.) INFORMED US THAT THE ISA WAS PASSED BY THE UPPER HOUSE OF JAPAN'S DIET ON JUNE 2 AND IS NOW IN THE FOREIGN AFFAIRS COMMITTEE OF THE LOWER HOUSE. HOWEVER, RATIFICATION OF THE ISA HAS NOW BECOME ENTANGLED IN UNFORESEEN, TIME-CONSUMING DIFFICULTIES OVER THE JAPAN-ROK CONTINENTAL SHELF AGREE-MENT. ALTHOUGH MOFA FORESEES NO PROBLEMS WITH THE SUB-STANCE OF THE ISA, RATIFICATION NOW APPARENTLY DEPENDS ON WHETHER NECESSARY DELIBERATION TIME CAN BE FIT INTO THE FEW DAYS REMAINING BEFORE THE DIET'S ADJOURNMENT. GIVEN THE COMMITTEE'S EXTREMELY TIGHT SCHEDULE, MOFA IS NOW AIMING FOR ACTION ON JUNE 16--THE FINAL DAY OF THE PRESENT DIET SESSION. WHILE STRESSING HIS MINISTRY'S INTEREST IN OBTAINING FAVORABLE ACTION ON THE ISA, OKAMOTO PLACES CHANCES FOR RATIFICATION AT "ABOUT 50-50".

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2. REGRET DELAY IN REPLYING TO REFTEL. MANSFIELD

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NNN

Message Attributes

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